

# KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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## FEATURING:

- Agricultural Prices
- Farm Labor
- Slaughter
- Cattle on Feed
- Chickens & Eggs
- Cold Storage
- Milk Production

## GRAIN PRICES DOWN, LIVESTOCK PRICES MIXED

**Kentucky** farmers received lower prices for their grain and soybeans and mixed prices for their livestock at mid-August.

Prices received for **steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over averaged \$83.00 per cwt. at mid-August, down \$3.00 from last month and \$1.00 below August a year ago. This was the lowest price in 6 months. **Beef cows** averaged \$44.00 per cwt., unchanged from last month while \$5.00 above last year. Prices received for **calves** under 500 lbs. averaged \$96.00 per cwt. This was \$3.00 below last month, \$1.00 less than last August and the lowest price in 8 months.

**Barrow and gilt** prices continued to increase and the mid-August price of \$52.00 per cwt. was \$2.00 above last month and \$12.00 above last year. Prices have been on the increase since January and are at their highest level since September 1997. **Sows** at mid-August averaged \$38.00 per cwt., down \$2.00 from July while \$3.00 above last August.

The **all milk** price at mid-August was up for the 6th consecutive month. The price of \$17.70 per cwt. was 10 cents above July and \$3.40 above August a year ago.

Prices received for **corn** at \$2.05 per bushel was 7 cents below last month while 10 cents above August 2000. The mid-August price was the lowest in 9 months. **Soybean** prices averaged \$5.00 per bushel at mid-August a nickel below last month while increasing 26 cents over last year. **Winter wheat** at \$2.45 per bushel decreased 2 cents from July while increasing 39 cents from last August.

The **U.S.** preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in August was 109 based on 1990-92=100, up 2 points (1.9 percent) from the July Index. Higher prices for lettuce, strawberries, cantaloupes, and wheat were partially offset by lower prices for cattle, onions, peaches, and celery. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of tobacco, cattle, grapes, and sweet corn were offset by lower marketings of wheat, hay, strawberries, and milk.

Compared with August 2000, the All Farm Products Index was 13 points (14 percent) higher. Price increases from August 2000 for milk, broilers, cattle, and corn were partially offset by lower prices for eggs, turkeys, tomatoes, and cotton.

### AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		AUG 2000	JULY 2001	AUG 2001	AUG 2001
		Entire Month		Mid-Month a/	
All Corn <b>b/ c/</b>	Bu.	1.95	2.12	2.05	1.93
Soybeans <b>b/</b>	Bu.	4.74	5.05	5.00	4.87
Winter Wheat <b>b/</b>	Bu.	2.06	2.47	2.45	2.67
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	98.00	95.00	90.00	105.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	64.00	55.00	52.00	74.00
All Hogs	Cwt.	39.80	49.60	51.40	51.70
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	40.00	50.00	52.00	52.40
Sows	Cwt.	35.00	40.00	38.00	40.60
All Beef Cattle <b>d/</b>	Cwt.	73.20	75.90	73.60	70.90
Steers & Heifers <b>e/</b>	Cwt.	84.00	86.00	83.00	73.70
Cows	Cwt.	39.00	44.00	44.00	43.40
Calves <b>f/</b>	Cwt.	97.00	99.00	96.00	106.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	14.30	17.60	17.70	16.30
Fluid <b>g/</b>	Cwt.	14.30	17.60	--	16.40
Manufactured	Cwt.	9.90	13.30	--	15.20
Hog-Corn Ratios <b>h/</b>	Bu.	20.4	23.4	25.1	26.8

a/ Preliminary. **b/** Includes contract sales paid during month. **c/** Includes yellow and white corn. **d/** "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. **e/** 500 lbs. and over. **f/** Under 500 lbs. **g/** Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. **h/** Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

## U.S. HIRED WORKERS UNCHANGED, WAGE RATES UP 5 PERCENT

There were 1.37 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of July 8-14, 2001, virtually the same as a year ago. There were 1.04 million workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 335,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 11.1 percent of the July hired workforce compared with 11.5 percent in July 2000.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.29 per hour during the July 2001 survey week, up 36 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$7.70 per hour, up 33 cents from last July.

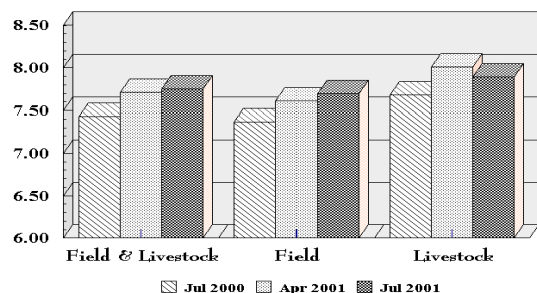
Livestock workers earned \$7.89 per hour compared with \$7.68 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate at \$7.75 was up 32 cents from last year.

The number of hired workers in the 3-State Region including Kentucky, West Virginia, and Tennessee totaled 39,000 during the week of July 8-14, 2001.

Field workers in the region were paid \$6.77 per hour compared to \$6.55 during the same period last year. Livestock workers were paid \$7.34 per hour compared to \$6.83 last year. The wage rate for all hired workers in the 3-State Region was \$7.29.

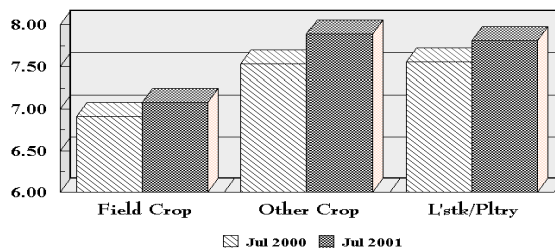
**U.S. Wage Rates by Type of Worker**

Dollars/Hour



**Wage Rate of Field & Livestock Workers By Type of Farm**

Dollars/Hour



## RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.64 billion pounds in July, down slightly from the 3.65 billion pounds produced in July 2000. July 2000 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. July 2001 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. **Beef production**, at 2.18 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.94 million head, down 1 percent from July 2000. The average live weight was 1,216 pounds, down 4 pounds from the previous year. **Pork production** totaled 1.43 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.45 million head, 1 percent above July 2000. The average live weight was 260 pounds, 1 pound above the previous year.

**COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: U. S. & KENTUCKY 1/**

Type	July 2000	June 2001	July 2001	July 01 % of	
				July 2000	June 2001
Million Pounds			Percent		
Beef	2,202	2,269	2,176	99	96
Veal	18	16	16	86	101
Pork	1,409	1,457	1,434	102	98
Lamb & Mutton	16	16	17	108	104
Total U.S.	3,645	3,758	3,643	100	97
Total Kentucky	31.3	30.8	31.9	102	104

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

**COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. JULY 2000 & 2001 1/**

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
<b>Kentucky</b>						
Cattle	0.8	0.9	712	779	858	907
Hogs	158.9	160.8	41,069	42,052	258	261
Sheep & Lambs	1.0	0.7	151	98	158	137
<b>United States</b>						
Cattle	2,962.2	2,940.5	3,613,577	3,574,905	1,220	1,216
Hogs	7,356.6	7,446.1	1,906,941	1,936,261	259	260
Sheep & Lambs	243.2	242.2	31,587	34,014	130	140

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

## U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

**Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.89 million head on August 1, 2001. The inventory was 7 percent above August 1, 2000 and 18 percent above August 1, 1999.

**Placements** in feedlots during July totaled 1.99 million, 4 percent above 2000 and 10 percent above 1999. Net placements were 1.93 million. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 469,000, 600-699 pounds were 444,000, 700-799 pounds were 606,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 467,000.

**Marketings** of fed cattle during July totaled 2.05 million, 2 percent below 2000 and 3 percent below 1999. **Other disappearance** totaled 59,000 during July, 34 percent above 2000 and 13 percent above 1999.

## CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

**Cattle on feed** August 1, 2001, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.39 million, up 7 percent from the previous year and 19 percent above August 1, 1999.

**Placements** in feedlots during July totaled 1.73 million, 4 percent above 2000 and 11 percent above 1999.

**Marketings** during July totaled 1.76 million, 1 percent below 2000 and 3 percent below 1999.

**Other disappearance** during July was 51,000 head, 38 percent above 2000 and 19 percent above 1999.

1/AZ, CA, CO, IA, KS, NE, and TX.

## UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Item	July 2000	July 2001	July '01 as % of July '00
<b>Egg Production</b>			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,061	7,181	102
Average Layers (000)	325,563	331,628	102
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,169	2,165	100
<b>Egg Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Aug 1 (000)	30,137	30,882	102
Chicks Hatched (000)	33,237	37,903	114
<b>Broiler Type Hatchery</b>			
Eggs Set Aug 1 (000)	615,006	629,030	102
Chicks Hatched (000)	740,188	760,203	103

## COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2001, were greater than year earlier levels for potatoes, orange juice and turkeys. Cooler stocks of apples were also higher than a year earlier.

All U S. Warehouse Stocks				July 2001 as % of	
Commodity	July 31 2000	June 30 2001	July 31 2001	July 2000	June 2001
Frozen Poultry	1,000 lbs			Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	36,566	26,496	26,143	71	99
Other Chicken	781,899	654,782	617,622	79	94
Total Chicken <u>1/</u>	828,516	690,137	652,475	79	95
Turkey	524,044	506,692	536,580	102	106
Total Frozen Poultry <u>2/</u>	1,357,614	1,205,499	1,197,713	88	99
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	391,525	340,786	351,582	90	103
Pork:					
Bellies	50,515	39,552	25,073	50	63
Total Frozen Pork <u>3/</u>	478,468	374,110	338,611	71	91
Total Meat <u>4/</u>	896,236	742,174	716,668	80	97

1/ Includes broilers, hens and other chickens. 2/ Includes chicken, turkey and ducks. 3/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs trimmings, and other frozen pork. 4/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

## MILK PRODUCTION

**Kentucky** milk production for July 2001 totaled 138 million pounds, up 2 percent from July 2000, but down 1 percent from June 2001. Average number of cows on farms, at 130,000, was down 3,000 head from a year earlier and unchanged from last month. Milk per cow averaged 1,060 pounds, up 45 pounds from last year, but down 15 pounds from last month.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during July totaled 12.1 billion pounds, down 1.2 percent

from July 2000. June revised production, at 12.1 billion pounds, was down 0.2 percent from June 2000. The June revision represented an increase of 0.3 percent or 34 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,555 pounds for July, 6 pounds below July 2000. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.75 million head, 72,000 head less than July 2000, but unchanged from June 2001.

### MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR JULY, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>1/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2001 as % of 2000
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,525	1,590	1,825	1,775	2,783	2,822	101
IL	120	115	1,430	1,405	172	162	94
IN	145	154	1,364	1,405	198	216	109
<b>KY</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>102</b>
MO	154	146	1,210	1,055	186	154	83
OH	263	258	1,420	1,420	373	366	98
VA	120	118	1,265	1,270	152	150	99
WI	1,345	1,288	1,480	1,470	1,991	1,893	95
20 State							
Total	7,821	7,749	1,561	1,555	12,205	12,053	99

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**Internet Access:** Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

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